

Central Plains Library System
Board Meeting
October 9, 2020, 11:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

Present: Tony Anderson, Doris Brandon, Terri Eberly, Judy Hagan, Janene Hill, Terri Johnson, Matthew Williams.

Absent: Jane Hilton, Lori Long, Linda Nickel, Shelley Ruterbories.

Also present: Denise Harders, Autumn Carlson, Christa Porter.

Call to order/Roll Call: Judy Hagan called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m. Roll call was taken.

Approval of Minutes: Terri Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2020 meeting. Tony Anderson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as circulated in the meeting packet.

Financial Reports: Denise Harders reviewed the financial reports. Terri Johnson made a motion to approve the financial report. Doris Brandon seconded the motion. The financial report was approved.

Correspondence: Denise shared correspondence from:

- Marty Magee from CCC: Thank you to Denise for the interview she gave to the Introduction to Librarianship class. Denise also said she received several emails/notes from the students as well.
- Rod Wagner: Thank you to Denise for her leadership on Reader Zone and the August Reader Zone Reading challenge.
- Jane Hilton: Letter of resignation from the CPLS board.

Director's Report:

Denise gave a recap of the report found in board meeting packets. Denise and staff have attended several webinars and virtual meetings. The Thursday Morning ZOOM meeting has been well attended with an average of 25 attendees. Autumn Carlson researched and prepared lists of homeschooling resources for the CPLS webpage.

Old Business:

- Denise included the updated version of the 2020-2021 Final Budget in our meeting packets. The budget was approved at the July 10, 2020 meeting.

New Business:

- Updated copies of the CPLS Board By-Laws, Personnel Policies and the 2019-2021 Plan of Service were in our meeting packets. Denise summarized the changes and noted the changes were approved at prior meetings.
- Denise reviewed the Financial Compilation by Gary Riggs. This report is submitted to the Library Commission.

Other Business:

Nebraska Library Commission Report by Christa Porter

- **NLC Office Update:** Office continues to be open by appointment only. Many staff members still working from home.
- **COVID-19 and Pandemic Resources for Libraries:** The Commission is maintaining a list of library closings, accommodations, and openings. Please contact nlc.ask@nebraska.gov with updates. The Commission also has a page of resources on pandemic preparedness and the current COVID-19 outbreak <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/libman/pandemic.aspx> and pinned a blog post <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nlcblog/2020/03/19/covid-19-and-pandemic-resources-for-libraries/>
- **Biennium Budget Request:** The Library Commission budget request was submitted on September 14. The request includes a 2.75% increase in funding for regional library systems for both years of the biennium beginning July 1, 2021.
- **LSTA Appropriations:** Congress passed a continuing resolution to fund federal agencies and programs until December 11. The resolution avoided a government shutdown on October 1. Congress will take up appropriations legislation after the November elections. There are proposals under consideration that would increase funding for LSTA including an increase for the Grants to States Program.
- **Library Innovation Studios Project:** Installation and training for the LIS project has resumed. Project staff are working with Superior, St. Paul, and Cambridge libraries. Most training is virtual with videos and recorded webinars.
- **IMLS Cares Act Funds for Grants to States:** IMLS received \$50 million in CARES Act funds for the coronavirus response in libraries and museums. The NLC received \$175,000. Grants were awarded to 64 libraries and the Central Plains Library System (for Reader Zone). Payments are being made as libraries return the grant agreement documents. A news release posted on the Commission website lists the libraries receiving grants: <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nlcblog/2020/08/11/nebraska-library-commission=awards-cares-act-grants-to-advance-digital-equity/>. Congress could enact an additional federal stimulus appropriation. If so, the appropriation could include additional funds for libraries. Proposals for library funding were submitted in the House and Senate.
- **NLC Grants for 2021:** The Commission has made funding available for grants for 2021. The Commission received over 30 applications totaling \$55,000, for Youth Grants for Excellence. Deadline for the Internship grant is November 10; and the deadline for the CE Grants is December 9. The commission opened up a special CE Grant to attend the 2020 Iowa Library Association Virtual Conference, to be held October 15.
- **ARSL Virtual Conference:** The ARSL annual conference was held virtually from September 28-October 2. 39 Grant applications were received to attend this conference, including two groups. If you did not attend the conference, ARSL has opened registration (at a fee) to receive access to the recorded sessions.
- **E-rate Funding year 2020 Update:** As of July 23, 2020, USAC released Wave 12 of funding commitment decision letters. 60 libraries funded for \$188,115, in discounts. Discounts ranged from 50 to 90 percent with an average discount of 73%. 57 libraries were awarded discounts on Internet services and 8 libraries were awarded Internal Connections/Basic Maintenance discounts. Check NLC website for a list of recipients.

- **NUSF-117-E-Rate Special Construction State matching Grant Program:** In response to the Rural Broadband Task Force Report, the Nebraska Public Service Commission has implemented a program to incentivize new fiber construction to public libraries through the FCC's E-Rate Special Construction Program. This program allocates one million dollars of funding over a four-year period to schools and libraries to assist with fiber builds to their city. The approved state funds provide a match for the federal E-rate funds, up to 10% to be paid toward the fiber build-out construction cost. Libraries and schools interested in applying for the grant must meet the qualifications and complete the application contained in the Order (NUSF 117) issued by the PSC. Applications must be submitted by mid-December, with the PSC issuing notices of approval by mid-January. NLC staff held a series of trainings for libraries eligible and interested in the grant. See website for full details. <https://www.nebraska.gov/psc/ordes/telecom/2020-05-19%20NUSF-117%Order.pdf>
- **Save the Date for Fall Book Celebrations:** The Nebraska Book Festival will not be held in 2020. It is planned to return in 2021. The Celebration of Nebraska Books will be presented online this year from October 19-23, presented in short segments with a keynote related to the 2020 One Book One Nebraska selection, presentation of awards, and announcement of the 2021 One Book One Nebraska selection.
- **NCompass Live Schedule:** For more detailed information and registration go to <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/NCompassLive/>
- **Basic Skills 2020 Schedule:** See the NLC website for class schedules. Discussion regarding extending deadlines for lessons or increasing the number of CE's for classes. Christa suggested contacting Holli Duggan regarding any questions.

Next board meeting will be January 8, 2021 at 11:00 via ZOOM.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Eberly, Secretary